

4th Annual Algae Biomass Summit Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Good afternoon, and, for those visiting, welcome to Arizona. I'm delighted you've chosen the Grand Canyon State for this very important conference.

I know you have an ambitious agenda planned for the next few days, but I hope you can sneak outside for even part of the day -- even on one of your breaks -- to enjoy some of the beautiful weather we have to offer at this time of year.

I'm proud of the fact that Arizona's Renewable Energy Standards, which went into effect in 2007, allow utilities to use solar, wind, biomass, biogas, geothermal and other similar technologies to generate "clean" energy to power Arizona's future.

One of those exciting technologies – the reason that all of you are here -- allows Arizona the potential to be a national and global leader in algae (AL-gee) research and biotechnology, reducing America's dependence on fossil fuel, increasing prospects for green jobs and profits, cleaning air and water, and creating valuable products for human and animal use.

I congratulate you for your focus on this exciting future, and I'm pleased to proclaim this "ALGAE CLEAN ENERGY AWARENESS WEEK."

If I could read just a portion of the Proclamation I signed ...

WHEREAS, algae are among nature's most efficient energy conversion systems, storing energy from sunlight, and are one of the oldest and most diverse groups of organisms in existence; and ...

WHEREAS, with an average of more than 330 days of sunshine a year, Arizona has the ideal geographic location to foster trans-disciplinary algae research and commercialization; and ...

WHEREAS, Arizona researchers have been pioneers in algal research for the past three decades, and the state currently is home to an ever-increasing number of researchers and entrepreneurs at universities, businesses and other organizations that span the spectrum of innovation in algae research and commercialization; and ...

WHEREAS, recognizing Arizona as one of the locations in the vanguard of algae research the Algal Biomass Organization selected Phoenix as the site of its 2010 national conference.

Now, therefore, I, Janice K. Brewer, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim September 26 through October 2, 2010 "ALGAE CLEAN ENERGY AWARENESS WEEK.

I want to especially recognize Science Foundation Arizona which funded early stage work in algal research.

Combined with the excellence at ASU, Arizona is building on this important research and commercialization that will result in promising new jobs for Arizonans.

So, I am especially pleased today to dedicate two-million dollars of my discretionary federal stimulus funding for Science Foundation Arizona to lead the state's support in the Arizona Center for Algae Technologies and Innovations.

This is more than a gesture; it is my commitment to this cutting edge research which holds such promise for our future. In fact, years from now, I would not be surprised if an "A" is added to our "Five Cs" – Copper, Cattle, Citrus, Climate, Cotton – AND ALGAE!

Thank you again for choosing Arizona as your meeting site, and I wish you a successful conference, and safe travels back home. Thank you.